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### ***Kernan Announces \$145,000 in Training Grants for 589 Workers at Two East Central Indiana Companies***

INDIANAPOLIS — Lt. Governor Joe Kernan announced today that two east central Indiana companies will receive training grants totaling \$145,000 from the Indiana Department of Commerce Skills Enhancement Fund to train 589 workers.

"These companies are dedicated to improving their products as well as their workforces through training and capital investments," said Kernan, who leads the state's economic development efforts as director of the Department of Commerce. "Because of their commitment, companies like these will remain competitive for years to come, and we are pleased help them by offering these programs."

- **Linden Creek Enterprises**, Portland, will receive a \$15,000 grant to train employees in 28 new and 39 existing positions as part of a \$600,000 investment in building and equipment upgrades. Linden Creek Enterprises, a member of the Linden Creek Management Group, is a production painter of exterior plastic and metal automotive parts. The company is an adhesion promoter, base coat and clear coat facility capable of handling parts from fascias to body-side moldings for the automotive industry. Linden Creek Enterprises will use the grants to train employees in English and Spanish as second languages, forklift and hydraulics operations, machining, electricity, on-the-job training and quality control procedures.
- **Tyson Foods, Inc.**, Portland, has been awarded a \$130,000 grant to train 92 new and 430 incumbent employees following the company's \$2 million capital investment in equipment. The company was established approximately 60 years ago in Arkansas and was incorporated in 1947. Tyson Foods entered the corn and flour tortilla business in Indiana in 1983 and is a leading processor of these products. It will train employees in English and Spanish as a second language, problem solving, team building, computer skills, forklift operation, electrical, chemical and quality control processes.

The Skills Enhancement Fund aids Indiana companies that undertake capital investment projects by helping to defray the costs of training new and current employees in basic work skills and company-specific skills necessary to support the project. Companies interested in learning more about these or other Commerce programs should contact their regional Commerce office at 800.463.8081, or visit the Web site at [www.indianacommerce.com](http://www.indianacommerce.com).